

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming device comprising:
an imaging member adapted to form a latent image on a photosensitive medium, the photosensitive medium comprising a plurality of microcapsules which encapsulate imaging material;
a processing assembly adapted to develop the latent image; and
a non-imaging member adapted to apply light onto said developed latent image to apply a photo-bleaching effect to the latent image and reduce overall undesired coloration in the latent image.
2. An image forming device according to claim 1, wherein said imaging member is an image forming LED print head and said non-imaging member is a non-image forming LED print head.
3. An image forming device according to claim 1, wherein said processing assembly is a pressure applying member adapted to apply pressure to said microcapsules.
4. An image forming device according to claim 1, further comprising a heater located upstream of said non-imaging member with respect to a direction of travel of said photosensitive medium.
5. An image forming device according to claim 1, further comprising a heater located downstream of said non-imaging member with respect to a direction of travel of said photosensitive medium.
6. An image forming device according to claim 1, further comprising a movement device adapted to support said imaging member and move said imaging member in a direction transverse to a direction of travel of said photosensitive medium.

7. An image forming device according to claim 6, wherein said movement device is further adapted to support said processing assembly to permit said processing assembly and said imaging member to move as a unit along said transverse direction.

8. An image forming device according to claim 6, wherein said movement device is further adapted to support said processing assembly and said non-imaging member to permit to permit said imaging member, said processing assembly and said non-imaging member to move as a unit along said transverse direction.

9. An image forming device according to claim 1, further comprising a first movement device adapted to move said imaging member and said processing assembly as a unit in a direction transverse to a direction of travel of said photosensitive medium, and a second movement device adapted to move said non-imaging member in said transverse direction.

10. An image forming method comprising the steps of:
exposing a photosensitive medium comprising a plurality of microcapsules which encapsulate imaging material to form a latent image, said exposing step comprising applying a first light beam onto said photosensitive medium;
developing the latent image; and
photobleaching said photosensitive medium by applying a second light beam to said exposed and developed photosensitive medium, said second light beam being adapted to bleach out undesired coloration resulting from said exposing step.

11. An image forming method according to claim 10, comprising the further step of:
post-heating said photosensitive medium before said photobleaching step.

12. An image forming method according to claim 10, comprising the further step of:

post-heating said photosensitive medium after said photobleaching step.

13. An image forming device comprising:

an imaging member adapted to form a latent image on a photosensitive medium, the photosensitive medium comprising a plurality of microcapsules which encapsulate imaging material;

a processing assembly adapted to develop the latent image; and

a non-imaging member adapted to apply non-visible energy onto said developed latent image to apply a photo-bleaching effect to the latent image and reduce overall undesired coloration in the latent image.

14. An image forming method comprising the steps of:

exposing a photosensitive medium comprising a plurality of microcapsules which encapsulate imaging material to form a latent image;

developing the latent image; and

photobleaching said photosensitive medium by applying non-visible energy to said exposed and developed photosensitive medium to bleach out undesired coloration resulting from said exposing step.